

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method comprising:

5 (a) placing at least one frame member in supporting connection with at least one exterior housing surface of an automated banking machine, wherein the machine includes a cash dispenser and a user interface surface including at least one input device;

10 (b) placing at least one panel in supporting connection with the at least one frame member, wherein the at least one panel extends away from the housing and in a direction transverse to the user interface surface.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the machine housing includes a pair of horizontally disposed, vertically extending exterior housing surfaces, and wherein (a) comprises placing a generally vertically extending frame member in operative connection with
15 each one of the vertically extending housing surfaces.

3. The method according to claim 2 wherein (b) comprises placing a panel in operative connection with each one of the frame members in the pair, wherein each panel extends away from the housing and in a direction transverse to the user interface surface.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein a first panel is in supporting connection with the first one of the vertically extending frame members in the pair and extends in a first plane, and wherein a second panel is operatively connected to a second one of the vertically extending frame members in the pair and extends in a second plane generally transverse to the first plane.

5. The method according to claim 2 wherein the housing includes a generally horizontally extending top housing surface, and further comprising:

(c) placing a top brace member above the top surface and in supporting connection with both of the vertically extending frame members.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the top frame member includes a central portion and two opposed ear portions extending generally perpendicular to the central portion, and wherein in (c) each one of the ear portions extend in operative engagement with one of the frame members.

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein in (c) each of the ear portions extend generally downward, and wherein each frame member extends in intermediate relation between a vertically extending housing surface and an ear portion.

8. The method according to claim 5 where in the machine includes a generally

horizontally extending bottom housing surface, and further comprising:

(d) placing a bottom brace member below the bottom surface and in supporting connection with both of the vertically extending frame members.

5 9. The method according to claim 8 wherein the bottom brace member includes a central portion and two opposed ear portions extending generally perpendicular to the central portion, and wherein in (d) each one of the ear portions is placed in operative engagement with one of the frame members.

10 10. The method according to claim 9 wherein in (d) each of the ear portions extend generally upward, and wherein each frame member extends in intermediate relation between a vertically extending housing surface and an ear portion.

 11. The method according to claim 10 wherein the machine includes a support leg extending below the bottom housing surface, and wherein the central portion includes at least one cutout, and wherein (d) includes positioning the support leg within the at least one cutout.

15 12. The method according to claim 1 wherein each frame member comprises in cross section a pair of operatively connected leg portions, wherein in (a) a first leg portion is placed in supporting connection with the at least one exterior housing surface, and in (b) a second leg

portion is placed in supporting connection with the at least one panel.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein in cross section the second leg portion extends at an obtuse angle relative to the first leg portion, and wherein in (b) the at least one panel extends at an obtuse angle relative to the user interface surface.

5 14. The method according to claim 1 where further comprising:

(c) placing at least one generally horizontally extending shelf in supporting connection with the at least one panel.

10 15. The method according to claim 14 wherein (b) comprises placing a pair of horizontally disposed panels in operative connection with the at least one frame member, and wherein (c) comprises placing a first generally horizontally extending shelf in supporting connection with a first panel and a second generally horizontally extending shelf in supporting connection with a second panel.

16. The method according to claim 1 wherein the machine housing has a height, and wherein in (b) the at least one panel extends substantially the height of the housing.

15 17. A method comprising:

(a) placing a frame in operative connection with an exterior housing of an existing automated banking machine, wherein the machine includes a cash dispenser and a user interface including at least one input device, wherein the machine is adapted to be operated through the user interface by a user in a user position;

(b) placing at least one generally vertically extending panel in supporting connection with the frame, wherein the panel extends outward from the housing and horizontally transverse of the user position.

18. The method according to claim 17 wherein (b) comprises placing two panels in supporting connection with the frame, wherein a first panel extends on a first transverse side of the user position and a second panel extends on a second transverse side of the user position.

19. The method according to claim 17 wherein the housing has a height, and wherein in (b) the at least one panel extends generally the height of the housing.

20. The method according to claim 19 wherein the housing has a top area and a bottom area, and wherein in (b) the at least one panel extends further outward from the housing in an area horizontally disposed of the user interface than in the top area and in the bottom area.

21. The method according to claim 20 wherein in (b) the at least one panel includes in

supporting connection therewith a generally horizontally extending shelf positioned below the at least one input device.

22. The method according to claim 17 wherein in (a) the frame includes a pair of horizontally disposed vertically extending frame members, and wherein (b) comprises placing at least one panel in supporting connection with one of the frame members.

23. The method according to claim 22 wherein in (a) the frame includes a pair of vertically disposed brace members in supporting connection with the frame members.

24. The method according to claim 23 wherein the exterior housing includes a top housing surface and a bottom housing surface, and wherein (a) includes extending one of the pair of brace members above the top housing surface and another of the pair of brace members below the bottom housing surface.

25. Apparatus comprising:

an automated banking machine including a cash dispenser and a user interface surface including at least one input device, wherein the automated banking machine includes an exterior housing;

a frame in supporting connection with the exterior housing;

at least one vertically extending panel in supporting connection with the frame, wherein the panel extends away from the housing and transverse to the user interface surface.

26. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the frame comprises a pair of opposed generally vertically extending frame members, and a pair of horizontally extending
5 brace members extending externally of the exterior housing.

27. The apparatus according to claim 26 wherein each frame member comprises in cross section a first leg portion, and a second leg portion extending in cross section at an obtuse angle relative to the first leg portion, and wherein the at least one panel is in operative engagement with the second leg portion.

10 28. The apparatus according to claim 26 wherein the frame comprises a top brace member extending above the housing, and a bottom brace member extending below the housing.

29. The apparatus according to claim 28 wherein each of the top and bottom brace members include vertically extending ear portions, and wherein a frame member extends in intermediate relation between the housing and the ear portions of both the top brace member and
15 the bottom brace member.

30. The apparatus according to claim 28 wherein the machine includes a support leg extending below the housing, and wherein the bottom brace member includes at least one cutout,

and wherein the support leg extends in the at least one cutout.

31. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein two vertically extending panels are engaged in supporting connection with the frame, are horizontally disposed and on opposed sides of the housing.

5 32. The apparatus according to claim 31 wherein each of the panels includes a generally horizontally extending shelf.

33. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the machine housing has a height, and wherein the at least one panel extends generally the height of the housing.

10 34. The apparatus according to claim 33 wherein the housing has a top area and a bottom area, and wherein the at least one input device is vertically intermediate of the top area and the bottom area, and wherein the at least one panel extends further outward from the housing horizontally adjacent the input device than horizontally adjacent the top and bottom areas.